

Remarks

A. Claims in the Case

Claims 50, 76, and 98-118 are pending in the case. Claims 50 and 76 have been allowed. Claims 1-23 and 97 have been rejected. Claims 1-23 and 97 have been cancelled. Claims 98-118 are new.

B. The Claims Are Not Anticipated By Yamamoto Pursuant To 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Office Action includes a rejection of claim 97 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Japanese Patent No. 09-105747 to Yamamoto et al. ("Yamamoto"). Applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection; however, to expedite prosecution of the present application applicant has cancelled claim 97.

C. The Claims Are Not Anticipated By Bodenhamer Pursuant To 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Office Action includes a rejection of claim 97 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,051,388 to Bodenhamer ("Bodenhamer"). Applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection; however, to expedite prosecution of the present application applicant has cancelled claim 97.

D. The Claim Is Not Obvious Over Yamamoto In View of Campbell and Howard Pursuant To 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Office Action includes a rejection of Claims 1-7, 9, and 15 under 35 U.S.C §103(a) as being obvious over Yamamoto in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,703,017 to Campbell et al. ("Campbell") and U.S. Patent No. 5,408,535 to Howard, III et al. ("Howard"). Applicant

respectfully disagrees with this rejection; however, to expedite prosecution of the present application applicant has cancelled claims 1-7, 9, and 15.

E. The Claim is Not Obvious Over Yamamoto In View of Campbell and Howard And Further In View of Wohlstadter Pursuant To 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Office Action includes a rejection of Claims 8, 11-14, 17, 18, and 21-23 under 35 U.S.C §103(a) as being obvious over Yamamoto in view of Campbell and Howard and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,066,448 to Wohlstadter et al. ("Wohlstadter"). Applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection; however, to expedite prosecution of the present application applicant has cancelled claims 8, 11-14, 17, 18, and 21-23.

F. The Claim is Not Obvious Over Yamamoto In View of Campbell and Howard And Further In View of Mauze Pursuant To 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Office Action includes a rejection of Claim 16 under 35 U.S.C §103(a) as being obvious over Yamamoto in view of Campbell and Howard and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,379,969 to Mauze et al. ("Mauze"). Applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection; however, to expedite prosecution of the present application applicant has cancelled claim 16.

G. The Claim is Not Obvious Over Yamamoto In View of Campbell, Howard, And Wohlstadter And Further In View of Walt Pursuant To 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Office Action includes a rejection of Claims 10, 19, and 20 under 35 U.S.C §103(a) as being obvious over Yamamoto in view of Campbell, Howard, and Wohlstadter and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,512,490 to Walt et al. ("Walt"). Applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection; however, to expedite prosecution of the present application applicant has cancelled claims 10, 19, and 20.

H. Support for New Claims

Claims 98-118 are new. Applicant submits that the new claims add no new matter. New dependent claims 98-108 (dependent upon independent claim 50) include features from previously cancelled dependent claims 51, 58, and 66-74 (previously dependent upon independent claim 50) respectively. New dependent claims 98-118 include features from currently cancelled and previously examined dependent claims 2-23. As such, Applicant submits that new dependent claims 98-118, are in condition for allowance.

I. Summary

Applicant submits that the claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

If an extension of time is required, Applicant hereby requests the appropriate extension of time. Should any other fees be required, or if any fees have been overpaid, the Commissioner is authorized to appropriately charge or credit those fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5119-07301/EBM.

Respectfully submitted,



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